

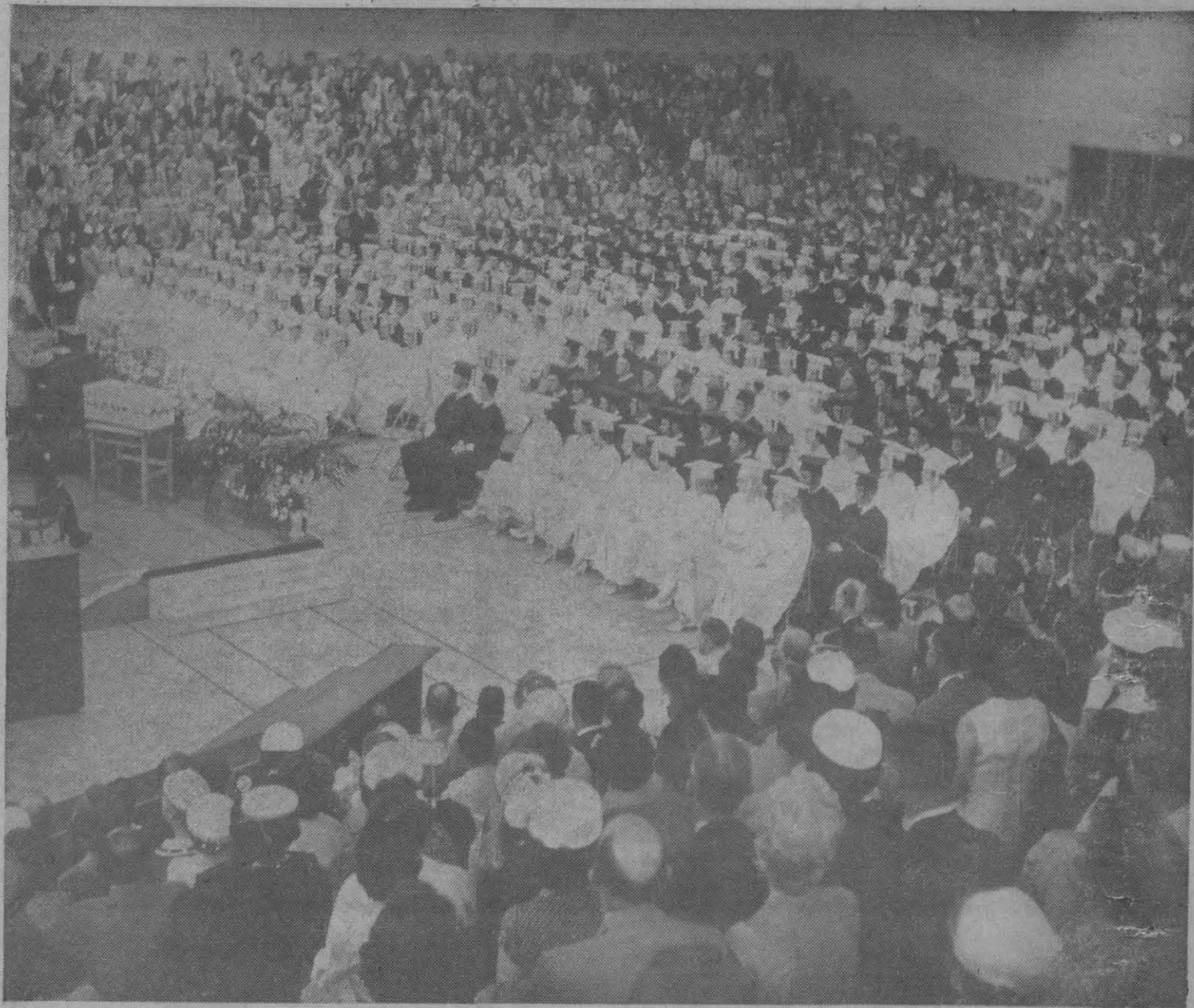
The Daily Sun

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."—John 8:32

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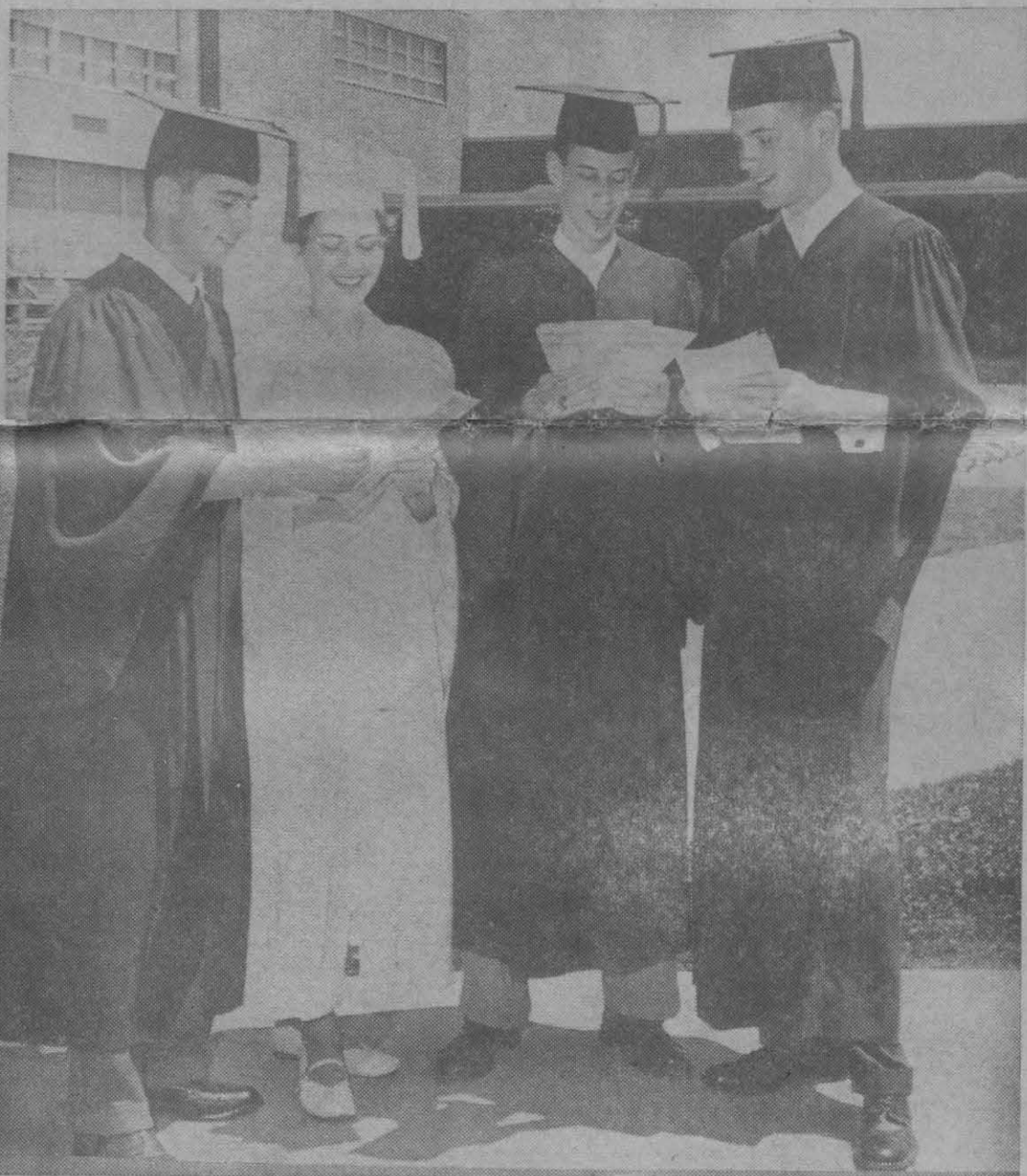
FIVE CENTS



WAKEFIELD HAS FIRST GRADUATION — The initial graduation at Wakefield High School was held last night. Over 350 graduated. Most were members of the 1953-54 10th grade, the top grade which the school enrolled when

it opened. The school took in the 11th grade the next year and the senior class last year. The graduates listen to Calvin D. Johnson, commencement speaker. The Washington-Lee High School graduation is tonight.

(Daily Sun Staff Photo)



VALEDICTORIANS COMPARE GRADES — The first valedictorians at Wakefield High School get together to compare grades prior to graduation last night. There was no real surprise, however, only smiles. All made straight A's all through high school. Left to right are Gene Bergoffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. William W. Bergoffen, 3104 S. Sixth Street; Joyce Adams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Adams, 242 N. Granada Street; Elliot Hinley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lacy W. Hinley, 227 N. Edison Street, and Richard Lee Potterton, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Durward Potterton, 316 N. Kenmore Street.

(Daily Sun Staff Photo)

Wakefield Has First Graduates

The first students in the three-year history of Wakefield High School graduated last night and there is little question that the most pleased and gratified person was Harold Wilson, principal.

"You always hate to see them go," he said of the 374 graduating seniors, "but it's time for them to go."

The students for the most part will go to the best colleges in the nation, with a large number receiving scholarships. Mr. Wilson believes the graduates to be an "unusually fine group."

The former associate principal at Washington-Lee High School, which graduates tonight, said that it's not accurate nowadays to total up the amount of the scholarships made available.

For example a student may be awarded a token scholarship of \$100. If the family should suffer a loss of income the scholarship could be increased if necessary.

"It's sort of insurance," Mr. Wilson said. He said he would estimate that the scholarships now total in the neighborhood of \$60,000 for the Wakefield graduates.

Mr. Wilson said that a "good tenth" of the graduating class has been invited to the top colleges in the country.

Wakefield has had a series of firsts in its short history. This is the biggest, the first graduation class.

Wakefield opened as a junior high school in the fall of 1953. The school contained the seventh through the 10th grades. In 1954 the 11th grade was opened and last fall the 12th grade.

In 1953, only the first unit, costing nearly \$3,000,000, was opened. Next year saw the second unit costing about \$1,700,000 open. Some junior high students still attend Wakefield but the junior high crowding in that South Arlington area will end with the construction of the proposed Gunston Junior High, funds for which were approved in the recent bond issue.

The graduates and their families heard a talk on the American way of life as a send-off last night. The principal speaker was Calvin D. Johnson, executive assistant to the vice-president of Remington Rand.

A list of the scholarship winners will be announced soon by Wakefield, which saw the successful end of its third year of operation today with the issuance of report cards.

Highlighting the long list of awards to Wakefielders were the four valedictorians.

Receiving nothing but "A" grades for senior high work were:

Gene Bergoffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. William W. Bergoffen of 314 S. Sixth Street; Richard Lee Potterton, son of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Potterton of 316 N. Kenmore St.; Joyce Adams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Adams of 242 N. Granada St., and Elliot Hinley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lacy W. Hinley of 227 N. Edison St.

Wakefield is primarily the home of Arlington youngsters who reside south of Arlington Boulevard.